GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4607
ANSWERED ON:25.04.2008
WOMEN IN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTOR
Sarvey Shri Sathyanarayana

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the growth rate of employment in the public sector has remained positive for women;

(b) if so, the comparative details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to provide opportunities to women in the public and private sectors in future?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY)

(a)&(b) As per the information received from the Ministry of Labour and Employment, 29.21 lakh women were employed in the public sector against 20.95 lakh in the private sector. Employment in public sector has increased by 1.1. percent as compared to the previous year.

(c) The Government has taken various measures to create an enabling environment to augment the share or women in the total workforce. These include:
Programmes and institutional support for skill development and capacity building:
Ministry of Women and Child Development has been implementing Support to Training and Employment Programme to provide training and skills to women to facilitate them to obtain employment or self employment on a sustainable basis.

Another programme being implemented by the Ministry of Women and Child Development, namely, Swayamsidha, aims at holistic empowerment of women through, among other things, economic empowerment and convergence of various schemes.

The Rashtriya Mahila Kosh (RMK) facilitates credit support or micro-credit support to the poor women for income generating, production, skill development and housing activities in order to make them economically independent.

To give special focus on the skill training development of women, the Directorate General of Employment & Training (DGE&T) under the Ministry of Labour & Employment has set up a Women's Training Directorate which aims at promoting participation of women in skill training. Under the Women's Vocational Training programmes, institutionalized skill training is being offered to women in basic, advanced & post-advanced skills for improving the employability of women in wage/self employment. In the State Sector, a network of exclusive Women Industrial Training Institutes (WITIs) have been set up under the administrative control of the State Governments.
Creating a positive and congenial work environment for women workers:

A number of protective provisions favouring women have been incorporated in the various labour laws such as Equal Remuneration Act, 1976, the Factories Act, 1948, the Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946, the Maternity Benefit Act, 1961 etc.
Assistance to women job seekers:
The Employment Exchanges take special care to cater to the job needs of women registered with them.

Besides the above, the National Policy for the Empowerment of Women, 2001 affirms Government's commitment to include women's perspectives in designing and implementing, macro-economic and social policies by institutionalizing their participation in such processes. The Policy also lays down that their contribution to socio-economic development as producers and workers will be recognized in the formal and informal sectors (including home based workers) and appropriate policies relating to employment and to their working conditions will be drawn up.